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**FEDERAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION
Washington, D. C. 20506**

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Committee on Scientific and Technical Information (COSATI)
held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 14, 1965, Room 208, EOB.**

Present

Members

William T. Knox (Chairman)
Andrew A. Aines (Secretary)
Burton W. Adkinson
W. Eurl Barclay
Edward J. Brunenkant
Melvin Day
Howard H. Eckles
F. Ellis Kelsey (for Stewart)
William H. Mills
Foster E. Mohrhardt
Donald A. Schon
Frank R. Smardak (for Wells)
Robert T. Stegmaier (for Carlson)

OST
OST
NSF
FAA
AEC
NASA
Interior
HEW
State
Agriculture
Commerce
VA
Defense

Others

Gregory Abdian
Scott Adams
Launor F. Carter
Ruth M. Davis
Henry J. Dubester
Joseph English
Paul S. Feinstein
Monroe Freeman
Dwight E. Gray
Ellis A. Johnson
Charles V. Kidd
James H. Matthews
Paul D. Olejar
James P. Riley
John Sherrod
Jack Stearns
Seymour I. Taine
George K. Taylor
Theodore W. Taylor
John K. Vance

DDC
NLM
SDC
Defense
NSF
BoB
NASA
Smithsonian
LC
HEW
OST
VA
NSF
FAA
AEC
LC
NSF
CFSTI
Smithsonian
CIA

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1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Item 2, line 3, page 2 - change word "information" to "international." Item 13, line 10, page 4 - change "Feinstein" to "Brunenkant."
2. HEW Member. Kelsey introduced Ellis A. Johnson, successor to William Stewart, HEW member for COSATI.
3. COSATI Panels. Work on the formation of new panels is continuing, according to the COSATI Chairman, who went on to inform the members that the International Activities Panel will be the next one to be formed. Meetings have been held with the Chairman of the International Committee of FCST and it was suggested that an official observer to the COSATI Panel be provided by that Committee.
4. Ad Hoc Task Groups. The Chairman announced the continuation of three task groups: Task Group on Journal Literature (completing final report), Task Group on National Systems for Scientific and Technical Information (continue until completion of mission), Task Group on Microfiche Standards and Task Group on Science Newspaper Study. The last two will continue under Brunenkant's direction.
5. OECD Information Activities. The Steering Group has met twice and is scheduled to meet in the United States in October 1965, Knox told the members. A plenary meeting will be held early in November 1965. Establishment of national policies in scientific and technical information among the members of OECD is receiving the attention of the Steering Group, Knox revealed.
6. COSATI Funding. The Chairman reported that five Federal agencies had agreed to earmark funds for COSATI needs in their FY 1967 budgets. He indicated that other agencies are concerned about Congressional attitudes about handling of interagency activity funding. This was reflected in comments made by FCST members at a recent meeting of that organization. BoB has also taken a hand to solve the problem, he explained. It is the Chairman's intention to review the matter at the FCST meeting in September, as well as detail COSATI's programs, problems and needs for funds.
7. Daddario Committee. The Chairman announced that he would testify before the Daddario Committee on the total scientific and technical information program on July 27, 1965. The purpose is to provide a background against which the NSF scientific and technical information program can better be understood.
8. Meetings With Industrial and Professional Groups. Schon told the members about his meeting with about forty representatives of industrial groups and companies under the sponsorship of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the meeting was to explain the work of the Task Group on National Systems and to open a dialogue about national plans. He expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting.

Adkinson announced a meeting to be held later in the day with about 60-70 members of smaller professional societies.

9. Speech. A brief report of a talk given to the Association of College and Research Librarians in Detroit the week before was reported by Knox. The Chairman told his listeners, both at the Librarian gathering and the COSATI meeting, that Mohrhardt has been asked to represent the Task Group on National Systems in discussions with the library community.
10. Licklider Report. Knox reminded the members that their comments on the Licklider report were due on July 15, 1965.
11. Pesticides Information Center. The members were reminded by the Chairman of the establishment of the Pesticides Information Center by the Department of Agriculture and a coordination paper sent them by Oliveri of that agency, asking for agency comments. Knox asked Agriculture to keep him informed of developments.
12. COSATI Support Survey. A request has been received from the Executive Secretary of FCST for a survey of resources used and needed by COSATI for Fiscal Years 1965, 1966, and 1967. A small group, working with Aines, has been formed to obtain and prepare the data to be submitted to FCST before August 1, 1965.
13. New Secretary. Knox introduced the new secretary for Aines, provided by the Department of Agriculture. She is Mrs. Judith Knott.
14. SDC Progress Report. A tentative outline of the SDC Report was issued by Carter. The draft report, which is to be ready on August 1, 1965, will consist of two volumes. The first, about 75 pages, will contain a summary, recommendations, and proposed system design. Volume II will be about 300-350 pages in length and will contain back-up data, alternate system designs, and a summary of past proposals for national systems. Carter then proceeded to describe the status of each of the sections of both volumes. In reply to a question from Knox, Carter stated that he would try to project costs for information systems developed to support the maturing technology to the best of his ability. Carter answered a query from Brunenkant about the location of the "capping agency" with acknowledgement that alternatives will be presented in the study report. Brunenkant asked that a government corporation be considered as one of the alternatives. Both Carter and Brunenkant discussed the possibility and desirability of GSA as a candidate.
15. National Referral Center Data Input. After a lengthy discussion of the proposed action paper to improve Federal agency information input to the National Referral Center, it was decided that a letter would be sent to COSATI members by the Chairman, requesting their full cooperation in this matter. Problems of scope of operations, relationship with the Clearinghouse, placement of the agency, and other policy questions would be reviewed by COSATI in the future.

✓ 16. Microfiche Standard Specifications - Action Paper 3-65. Brunenkant, in response to a question from the Chairman, stated that for all practical purposes the microfiche standard under consideration is essentially the same as the international standard. Brunenkant reviewed the proposed action paper, told about a meeting held with some 30 representatives of film and equipment manufacturers to urge adoption of the standard and obtain their cooperation and support, praised the cooperation of DDC and the Clearinghouse in testing the standards, and informed the members that assistance would be given NLM to help the Library determine the usefulness of the microfiche standard in its operation. There was a discussion about the extent of coverage of the standard. Brunenkant stated that it did cover report literature and would be useful in other applications, such as in books. The formation of the ad hoc group to study extensions case by case provided a means to determine utility in other areas. He explained that the Introduction to the Microfiche Standard spelled this out. Brunenkant agreed that reference to OST should be changed to FCST. Knox congratulated Brunenkant and his group for an excellent achievement. ✓ Action - Action Paper 3-65 is adopted and will be made available for sale at the Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information.

17. Chemical Information Program. Paul D. Olejar, Coordinating Program Officer, National Science Foundation, gave a summary progress report on the Chemical Information Program as follows:

The 2-year inter-agency program, under the aegis of OST, is funded by DoD, NIH and NSF, the latter also providing management and administrative support. A total of \$4.2 million has been committed by the three agencies to conduct the exploratory development, and allied research, of computer-based chemical data handling. An agency representing policy group and a program management group maintain monitorship.

A 2-year contract with the American Chemical Society for \$2,043,600, announced June 3, will provide the first subsystem of the program. It is a large size computer-based Registry System at Chemical Abstracts Service of compound structural diagrams, and inter-related files of molecular formulae, nomenclature, 1965-66 bibliographic references, and registry numbers. Substructure or fragment searches will be developed. The remaining funds will support evaluation studies including a "technical audit" in November; utility trials and tests in support of Federal agency missions; cost-benefit studies; improvements in system and techniques; studies of data bank content extension; and system concepts, networks and objectives on which recommendations to Federal agencies can be based.

Several questions were asked dealing with participation of other Federal agencies, availability of tapes, restrictions on distribution, future funding, duration of the contract, impact on work of the Task Group on National

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Systems, and others. Some of the questions were answered and others were deferred for further study and recommended actions.

18. Reports by Panel Chairmen. Brief reports of progress in getting organized were provided by the chairmen of the panels on Operational Techniques and Systems (Abdian), Information Sciences Technology (Davis), and Education and Training (Sherrod).
19. Comments by Members. Brunenkant told the members about his meeting with Jack Haley and the Joint Committee on Printing Study Group. He expressed concern about the need of more coordination with an understanding of the research and development community's side of the house on the part of the JCP committee. The printed output of computers is being scrutinized by JCP and, if this comes under control, Brunenkant added, it might provide operational problems. Stegmaier told the members that the 1 July 1965 issue of TAB (65-13) has followed the COSATI Subject Category List order.
20. Next COSATI Meeting. The next meeting will be held at 10:00 a. m., August 25, 1965, Room 208 EOB.

Andrew A. Aines
Executive Secretary